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# Senator Shan S. Tsutsui

## **Hawaii State Senate**

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, January 18, 2005

#### TSUTSUI ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF 2005 SESSION STAFF

HONOLULU – Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, (D-Central Maui) today announced the appointment of his 2005 Session Staff. "No Legislator can do their job alone and I am proud to have a dedicated and well-trained group of people." This is who they are and some of what they do:

**Mrs. Leah Bulosan-Belmonte, Community Liaison** – Belmonte is a graduate of Baldwin High School and has earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Tsutsui said, "During the session, I am required to spend a lot of my time at the state Capitol. She will help me close the distance between my constituents and my Capitol office--bringing the best possible service to the people of the 4<sup>th</sup> senatorial district." She will attend community meetings and events, and assist with community outreach. Belmonte is a Human Resources Manager at the Renaissance Wailea Beach Resort and a Former Miss Hawaii Filipina (1993).

Mr. Jayson M. Watts, Legislative Assistant – Watts is a graduate of Baldwin High School and the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he earned a BA in Political Science. Watts is a former Legislative Assistant to the late Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink, (D-Hawaii). He was a member of her congressional staff from 2000-2002, working in both her Honolulu and Washington, D.C. offices. Unlike the others, he is a year-round permanent member of my staff. He has overall responsibility of my legislative staff, is responsible for overseeing my legislative agenda, and is the point of contact for media inquiries. Watts is also a soldier in the U.S. Army Reserve.

**Mr. Brian Hiranaga, Legislative Aide** – Hiranaga, also from Maui, is a retired Delta Airlines senior agent. Hiranaga's responsibilities include community outreach and events, and congratulatory certificates and resolutions. He is also responsible for making sure my office is running smoothly.

**Ms. Brittany P. Yap, Legislative Intern** – Born on Maui, Yap is a 2002 graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and a junior majoring in journalism at the Hawaii Pacific University (HPU) in Honolulu. Her duties will include general office responsibilities, bill tracking, assisting with committee testimony, and assisting the office with legislative correspondence.

The Twenty-Third Legislature convenes tomorrow, Wednesday, January 19, 2005 and is scheduled to adjourn, sine die on Thursday, May 5, 2005.

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